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New Advanced Techniques for Assessing Soil Chemistry

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Message from the Guest Editor

A good knowledge of the soil chemistry status is of great interest regarding important topics such as soil fertility, contamination problems, eutrophication, acidification, and climate change. Lately more advanced tools for assessing soil chemistry have been developed, e.g. X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) for speciation of nutrients and potentially toxic elements, and synchrotron μ-XRF, which can show spatial distribution patterns in the soil and correlations of elements in space. Another set of valuable tools for evaluating soil chemistry include geochemical models for speciation, solubility prediction, weathering, nutrient cycling, acidification, eutrophication, and the transport of elements.

Since soils often have a complex composition and can be highly heterogenous, it is seldom enough with only one technique for a full view, therefore studies with a combination of techniques are highly valuable.
The scope of this Special Issue is to highlight new, state-of-the-art research regarding these topics, in order to better evaluate the soil chemistry status of soils around the world.

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